

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, please replace the title ~~Bacteria Carrier Material~~ with **BACTERIA SUPPORT MATERIAL**

At page 1, after the title, please insert the following new paragraph:

Related Applications

This application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 filing of International Application Number PCT/EP2004/014627 filed December 22, 2004, which claims priority to German Application 103 60 465.0, filed December 22, 2003 in Germany. The contents of these applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

At page 1, please replace the heading ~~Prior Art~~ with **Background**.

At page 2, please replace the heading ~~Brief Description of the Invention~~ with **Summary of the Invention**.